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respect to acute intestinal diseases, which caused 33 deaths. There was, however, a notable decrease with regard to acute diseases of the respiratory organs, which claimed 60 victims. Furthermore, there were registered 4 deaths from influenza, 8 deaths from measles, 6 deaths from diphtheria, 4 deaths from scarlet fever, 76 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, and 41 deaths from cancer. Finally, 11 persons died by violence.

Typhoid fever in Germany—Precautions to be observed.

[Extract from the "Gesundheitsbüchlein," issued by the Imperial Health Department of Germany.]

Typhoid fever.—Thanks to the improvements in the public sanitation in many large German cities in which formerly numerous cases of illness and death and even widespread epidemics were caused by typhoid fever, this disease has become rarer. It prevails, however, largely in the country and in many cities. In the twenty years from 1877 to 1896 49,948 persons died from typhoid fever in the towns of Germany which have population of not less than 15,000, being a yearly average of 2,497 deaths for the whole Empire; still, since 1877, there has been a steady decline in the number of deaths from typhoid fever. In the five years from 1877 to 1891 the average was only 2,269 annually, although there has been a great increase in the urban population during the same period; from 1892 to 1896 the average was 1,666, and in the year 1897 there were only 1,552 deaths from typhoid fever.

The typhoid germs leave the body of the patient with the excreta and urine, and easily pass, even with careful watching, to his linen and bedding. Sometimes the excretions occur involuntarily.

From his linen the infectious germs may spread to his hands, and next to all objects touched by him, such as clothes, food, and utensils, and may thus carry infection to relatives, nurses, physicians, and other persons who do not carefully observe the regulations necessary in the intercourse with the patient. The patient's linen must be disinfected as soon as possible after use, and the sick room and its furniture after the close of the illness. The excreta of the patient should never be discharged or removed without previous disinfection. The nonobservance of this latter regulation is a frequent cause of epidemics of typhoid fever.

HONDURAS.

Epidemic of anthrax in department of Intibuca.

The following is received from Consul Moe at Tegucigalpa, under date of December 22:

Late in November a disease broke out among the inhabitants of the department of Intibuca, Honduras, and became general in the town of La Esperanza. At first the disease was variously diagnosed, and as little was done in the matter of confining its spread or alleviating the suffering of those persons afflicted many became violently ill, and a large number died through nontreatment or mistreatment.

The attention of the Government was finally called to the matter, and a sanitary and hygienic commission, composed of two physicians and surgeons of high repute in Honduras, was appointed by the Government to investigate and report on the nature of the epidemic and

to give such suggestions and directions as might tend to cure or diminish the violence of the affliction. This commission reported at length on the nature of the malady, and issued a report suggesting the means and remedies to be employed in the isolation and cure of those sick with the disease.

With respect to prophylaxis, the commission makes the following suggestions:

A person acquiring the disease by contact with the meat, skin, or other part of the animal afflicted—such as lambs, goats, horses, cattle, and deer—or by coming in contact with objects with which the diseased animals may have come in contact, or by the use of the meat of animals suffering with the disease and by the bite of insects infected with the virus of diseased or dead animals should be advised:

1. That the entire animal should be immediately cremated.
 2. That the authorities should be immediately notified that a herd is attacked by the disease.
 3. That those who do not comply with the foregoing provisions will be severely punished.
 4. That visits to the cattle ranches should be made by inspectors duly appointed for that purpose.
 5. That the sale of meat unexamined should be prohibited.
 6. That people be prevented from sleeping in places where the animal infection exists.
 7. That the ground on which infected cattle have grazed or moved be made sanitary by plowing.
 8. That isolation wards be established.
 9. That under no pretext shall the hides of contaminated animals be permitted to be utilized.
 10. That when a person dies of the anthrax his body should be buried at a depth of at least 5 feet and covered with quicklime. His clothes and all articles with which he has come in contact should be burned.
 11. That all infected places should be submitted to disinfection with spirits of turpentine or with diluted sulphuric acid.
- NOTE BY THE EDITOR OF EL DIA.—The measures indicated by Doctors Suazo and Duron were put in practice, and the epidemic immediately diminished in virulence. It has now completely disappeared.

INDIA.

Mortality in Bombay—Cholera epidemic at Kerbela.

Acting Asst. Surg. Edward H. Hume, at Byculla, reports, December 26, as follows:

Week ended December 22, 1903: Total number of deaths, 581; deaths last week, 587; deaths in same week last year, 724; average for same week for five years, 890; mortality rate, 38.93 per thousand per annum.

Cholera epidemic at Kerbela.

I have the honor to quote the following telegram, dated December 12:

BAGDAD, December 12.

Cholera is raging in epidemic form at Kerbela. Rumored number of deaths, 50 or 60 per diem. Quarantine cordon has been established around Bagdad.